COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

**Washington, DC 20515—4803** January 12, 2018 1609 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225–3452

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Paul Ryan Speaker of the House H-232 The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

Kevin McCarthy Majority Leader H-107 The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 Nancy Pelosi Minority Leader H-204 The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

Steny Hoyer Minority Whip 1705 Longworth HOB Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan, Leader McCarthy, Leader Pelosi, and Whip Hoyer,

With new reports from the Congressional Budget Office on long-term reauthorization for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), I am asking that the House continues to be the leader on CHIP reauthorization and that a long-term solution is included in any spending bill.

CHIP is a critical program for my constituents in southern West Virginia, and passing a long-term reauthorization will give families and children peace of mind in the new year. The House led the way on securing the future of the CHIP program by passing a five-year resolution in November, and the House should continue to lead on this issue by including a long-term solution in any continuing resolution or spending bill.

Quality healthcare is critical for children in my rural Southern West Virginia district, where access to care is an ongoing issue. This geography makes CHIP even more important to families in my home state. CHIP encourages and promotes access to primary care, and there are thousands of children who rely on this program in my district. In fact, CHIP families in my district have already been put on notice that the program could end as early as February 28.

With continued reports that states' CHIP programs are strained, now is the time to act on a long-term CHIP reauthorization. By passing a long-term solution, we can show that Congress stands with rural America and families across this country.

Sincerely,

Evan H. Jenkins

Member of Congress

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